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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/824,005      | 04/03/2001  | Hirotake Watanabe    | 010368              | 6459             |

38834 7590 06/27/2005

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| EXAMINER |
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SORRELL, ERON J

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2182

DATE MAILED: 06/27/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/824,005

Applicant(s)

WATANABE, HIROTAKE

Examiner

Eron J. Sorrell

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03 April 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

DETAILED ACTION

*Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakamura (U.S. Patent No. 6,516,347) in view of Ylonen (U.S. Pub No. 2004/0250072).

Referring to method claims 1 and 3, system claims 5 and 7, and apparatus claim 9, Nakamura a network management system having a plurality of network devices connected to management equipment through a network, said network management system comprising:

said management equipment for assigning identification information to each network device and setting to said each network device (see lines 37-46 of column 4);

wherein said management equipment indicates said network device onto a screen for network device management using the identifier which is the same as said identification information

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(see lines 55-62 of column 4), and wherein a user is enabled to assign identification information different from the identification information used in the network (see lines 50-54 of column 4, note the user is enabled to enter any identification information).

Nakamura fails to teach the plurality of network devices for visually outputting said identification information assigned thereto on an operation panel of the network device.

Ylonen teaches in an analogous method, the above limitation (see paragraph 38 on page 3).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to modify the system and method of Nakamura with the above teachings of Ylonen. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to make such modification in order for the user to verify the configuration data as suggested by Ylonen (see paragraph 37 on page 3).

3. Referring to method claim 2, system claim 6, and apparatus claim 10, Nakamura teaches the management equipment retrieves a database having identification information related to each network device (see figures 3 and 4) and automatically assigning

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a retrieved identification information to each network device (see lines 1-23 of column 7).

4. Referring to claim 8, Ylonen teaches the network device is a printer (see paragraph 2 on page 1) and the management equipment is a server (see paragraph 19 on page 2).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to modify the system and method of Nakamura with the above teachings of Ylonen. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to make such modification because network printers are widely in use and the use of servers for configuring devices allows for remote configuration as new devices are connected to the network as suggested by Ylonen (see paragraph 9 bridging pages 1 and 2).

5. Referring to method claim 4 and apparatus claim 11, the combination of Nakamura and Ylonen fails to teach the identification information comprises a primary identifier and a secondary identifier respectively includes a color and letter however Ylonen does teach the identifier can be anything suitable to identify the device (see paragraph 19 on page 2) It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art a

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the time of the applicant's invention to modify the combination of Nakamura and Ylonen such that the identification information comprises a primary identifier and a secondary identifier, respectively includes a color and letter in order to uniquely distinguish any printers as either color or black and white and enumerate printers in each category in order to be able to differentiate one printer from one another.

#### ***Response to Arguments***

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-11 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

#### ***Conclusion***

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action

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is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

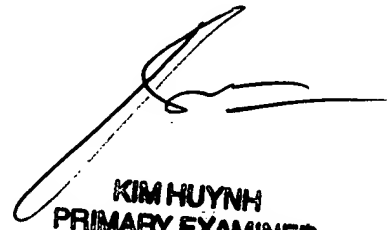
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eron J. Sorrell whose telephone number is 571 272-4160. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00AM - 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dov Popovici can be reached on 571-272-4083. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

EJS  
June 22, 2005



**KIM HUYNH**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**  
6/23/05